



King County

Department of Community and Human Services

Jackie MacLean, Director

401 Fifth Avenue, Suite 500

Seattle, WA 98104

(206) 263-9100 Fax (206) 296-5260

TTY Relay 711

Regional Human Services and Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Joint Board Meeting Summary July 21, 2011 2-4 p.m. Bellevue King County Library – 1111 110th Ave. NE, Bellevue, WA

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kathy Brasch at 2:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Regional Human Services Levy Oversight Board (RHSLOB) Members Present: Kathy Brasch (Co-Chair), Edith Nelson, David Ramsay

RHSLOB Members Excused/Absent: Dorry Elias-Garcia, Kathleen Hadaller, Loran Lichty (Co-Chair), Don Moreland, Kate Slaminko

Veterans Citizen Levy Oversight Board (VCLOB) Members Present: Doug Hoople (Chair), Gary Kingsbury, Cynthia Lefever, Kathy Lewis, Robert Stephens, Jr., Bill Wood, Roger Welles

VCLOB Members Excused/Absent: Stan Gunno, Oren Hadaller

King County Staff Present: Linda Peterson, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS); Debora Gay, DCHS; Anna Markee, DCHS; Joel Estey, DCHS; Marcy Kubbs, DCHS; Laird Heia, DCHS

Review of Meeting Summary

The draft July 21, 2010 meeting summary was approved as written.

Chairs Report – Co-Chair Kathy Brasch (RHSLOB)

- Though it has been a year since the levy boards met jointly, the boards have been engaged in a number of activities. In the winter, boards attended a series of briefings on Strategies 1 through 4 that provided information on current service trends, the funding environment and legislative issues such as the Health Care Reform Act that may impact Levy-funded services in the future.
- The Boards considered major policy issues related to the renewal of the levy and decided that the Levy should remain the same size; should be split 50:50 between Veterans and Human Services and that the basic structure of the Service Improvement Plan (SIP) strategies should be maintained in the next levy. They also decided the two board structure should remain the same.

- In the spring, the chairs represented the boards on the Levy Renewal Steering Committee to discuss issues concerning the development of the levy renewal package, taking members recommendations to the committee.
- In March, both boards met with King County Executive Dow Constantine to share their views on the renewal of the Levy.

Chairs Report –Chair Doug Hoople (VCLOB)

- Later in the spring, the boards sent a letter to the Executive and King County council formally recommending the Levy be placed before the voters for renewal. In it they included their recommendations on the size of the next levy, the structure of SIP strategies and their recommendation that the next levy maintain both the RHSLOB and VCLOB.
- In May, the County Council passed an ordinance placing the levy on the August 16th Primary ballot. It included the board's recommendation limiting the levy to its current size and that it maintain the 50:50 split between veterans and human services.
- This summer board chairs participated in a series of meetings of the planning team helping develop the next Service Improvement Plan (SIP). Board members were encouraged to share their input with the chairs so their views could be shared with the planning team.
- Last week the 2010 Levy Annual Report was presented to the Regional Policy Committee of the Council. The panel of presenters reported that over 82,000 clients have been served by the current levy. Testimony included that of a veteran client who credited the KCVP program and its case managers for essentially saving his life.
- Besides the many services the boards helped oversee, members can be proud that since 2007, they have donated a total of 2,130 hours to provide oversight to the implementation of the Veterans and Human Services Levy.

Levy Renewal – Anna Markee

Anna updated the board on the levy renewal and the development of the next SIP. She shared that the process of developing the next SIP included extensive outreach to the community, analysis of changes in the environment including demographics, major policies and funding, as well as a review of current levy-funded programs.

The planning team included staff from the DCHS, the Public Health Seattle & King County, the King County Executive Office, the Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget, King County Council staff and the Veterans and Human Services Levy Oversight Board Chairs.

Changes to the SIP reflect an effort to streamline systems and processes. For example, in the next SIP, some of the current Strategy Five activities will be incorporated into the relevant strategy it helps support rather than being placed in a separate "evaluation and resource management" strategy.

Assuming the levy passes, Board members will have the opportunity to review the draft SIP from August 17th-24th. Board comments will be due by August 24th to Marcy Kubbs who will summarize board suggestions.

Discussion:

Board members had a number of comments and questions about the next SIP. They included the following:

- Robert requested data on the number of women veterans and veterans of color being served by the levy be included in future levy reports.

- How will the current Strategy Five committee be involved in the evaluation process if there is no Strategy Five in the next SIP?
- Gary Kingsbury and Edith Nelson expressed the desire for additional north-end providers to receive levy funding. To be sure north-end providers don't miss RFP opportunities; Anna encouraged north-end coalitions to pinpoint a person to monitor funding announcements and opportunities.
- Kathy Lewis suggested the need for improved communication to smaller cities be included in the next SIP.
- Kathy Brasch encouraged board members to take the opportunity to review the draft SIP during the week it will be available. She thanked Linda Peterson, Anna Markee and Debora Gay for their work in the SIP planning process.

Staff Report – Marcy Kubbs

- Two new housing projects that received Levy support opened this month. The YWCA's Passage Point opened on July 7th and the Catholic Community Services' Bakhita Gardens Opened July 11th. With the completion of these two projects a total of 102 additional units of housing became available to vulnerable residents of King County.
- The 2011 Second Bi-annual Report, focusing on Strategy 2 – Ending Homelessness, is in its final stages of review and will be transmitted to the King County Council by August 30, 2011.
- Marcy reviewed the Open Public Meetings Act notice that was provided by the King County Executive Office.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

- Doug wondered if the boards may need to change meeting schedules if the levy is renewed to accommodate the proposed process to review procurement plans at joint board meetings. .

Petitions/Communications (Public Comment)

- Robert is interested in seeing more research conducted on the needs of women veterans and veterans of color. He also announced Lemanuel "Lee" Jones, President Emeritus of the African American Veterans Group of Washington State, recently passed away.
- A Stand Down with the Veterans Affairs, the Levy's Mobile Medical Van and Medical Teams International will be held on Thursday, September 15th. For more information, please contact Joel Estey by email at joel.estey@kingcounty.gov.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.